There is no proposal to convert all the MG/NG lines. Some projects for conversion are already in progress and targets for following works have been fixed:—

(i) Sabarmati-Khodiyar—2006-07

(ii) Samakhiyali-Gandhidham—2006-07

(iii) Bharuch-Samni-Dahej—2008-09

(iv) Mahesana-Patan—2008-09

(c) A number of initiatives have also been taken to augment resources for expediting completion of the ongoing projects including gauge conversion. These include sharing by State Governments, Public/Private Partnership, funding from Ministry of Defence, additional resources for National Projects and non-budgetary initiatives for National Rail Vikas Yojana.

Connectivity of Hazira Port with Mumbai Delhi route

2404. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any MoU was signed between the Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd., Hazira Port Ltd., Gujarat Industrial Development Corporation and Gujarat Maritime Board regarding rail connectivity of Hazira port with Mumbai-Delhi railway route; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed on 13.01.2005 among the following parties:-

(i) Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL)

(ii) Hazira Port Private Limited

(iii) Gujarat Industrial Development Corporation

(iv) Essar Steel Limited

(v) Gujarat Maritime Board

The basic objective of the MoU was to enable formation of a project specific Special Purpose Vehicle for implementation of the railway line project from Surat to Hazira Port.

Harassment of RPF women staff

2405. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR: Wil! the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the staff of Railway Protection Force in Central Railway, specially women are harassed by frequent suspension, dismissal, removal and transfer at anytime;

(b) whether Government are also aware that such harassment are due to prejudice and are on increase during last two years;

(c) the details of RPF personnel in Central Railway who were suspended/terminated/dismissed during last two years alongwith reasons therefor; and

(d) the remedial steps taken by Government to reinstate them and to check this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No woman constable or Railway Protection Force, Central Railway has either been placed under suspension or dismissed from service or transferred out of division against her wish. However, a complaint of sexual harassment was lodged by Smt. Manjushri Jain, Ex. Head Clerk, Chief Security Commissioner/RPF Office, Mumbai against Shri B.S. Sidhu, CSC/RPF/Central Railway. The General Manager, Central Railway appointed a committee to enquire into the complaint. On enquiry, her complaint was proved to be false. Later on, Smt. Manjushri Jain was taken up under D&AR rules and she was dismissed from the service by the Disciplinary Authority. Against these orders, she moved the Hon'ble Central Administrative Tribunal, Mumbai Bench, which dismissed her Original Application (OA-No. 379) of 2005 *vide* orders dated 31-07-2006.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.